

SP

5-30-89

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

OF

NYMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY

EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

DRAFT



SEMS DocID 638121

Final Report
Shaner M. King
4/5/93

INTRODUCTION

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) of the Nyman Manufacturing Company site (Ferris Avenue), CERCLIS No. RID 981885098 was performed by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) under the Multi-Site Cooperative Agreement (MSCA).

The documents prepared as part of this PA comply with requirements set forth under EPA Superfund Legislation (CERCLA). They do not necessarily fulfill the requirements of other regulations such as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). This PA is not intended to be a definitive study of the site, nor one that is suitable for planning site remediation activities. Rather, it constitutes the first step in a site screening and assessment process set forth by the National Contingency Plan.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The Nyman Manufacturing Company site is located on 275 Ferris

Avenue in East Providence, Rhode Island (figure 1). The site consists of approximately 2 acres owned by Nyman Manufacturing and located northeast of the Nyman Plant. This property is designated as Map 502, Block 5, Parcel 3 in the Land Evidence Records of East Providence (1).

Nyman Manufacturing has owned the site since 1979, at that time they merged with Troy Realty Company. Troy Realty Co. bought the facility in 1969 from First National Stores, a local food chain, that opened in 1948. First National Stores used the building as a food distribution center for the area. Prior to First National Stores ownership the site was owned privately dating back to 1935 (2).

On 5 December 1988, the RIDEM conducted a site visit as part of the preliminary assessment process (figure 2). During this visit, RIDEM representatives observed the following:

- * Access to the entire property is restricted by a locked six foot chain link fence.
- * The site is a relatively flat and vacant parcel, which supports a variety of grasses and small trees. However, the site topography does not appear to be natural and the vegetation onsite appears to have regrown after some type of surficial disturbance.

- * Three empty and rusted drums were found in close proximity of each other onsite.
- * A small area that was scorched by fire.
- * Several piles of tar, sand and wood scraps were scattered throughout the site (3).

The Nyman Manufacturing Plant and property are bordered, to the south and west, by single family houses. To the north and east the property abuts other industrial companies. A rail siding is located on the northeast side of the property (3).

Nyman Manufacturing produces plastic cups, paper cups and disposable dinnerware. The company has five major manufacturing departments; extrusion, flexographics, paper conversion, thermoforming and injection. The processes involved in these departments include: dying, cutting, gluing, waxing, and packaging. Hazardous waste generated at the plant include the following:

- * Alcohol-based inks, used in printing.
- * Tetrachloroethylene, a solvent, is used in the flexographic printing process as "etchant".
- * Petroleum naphthalene, used for equipment degreasing.

* 1,1,1 trichloroethane, used for equipment degreasing.

* Several other chlorinated solvents are also used for equipment degreasing (4).

Nyman Manufacturing manifests for disposal approximately 100 to 150 lbs of petroleum naphthalene and 150-200 gallons of tetrachloroethylene every month; and also other spent solvents at varying amounts throughout the year. Based on hazardous waste manifests on file with the RIDEM this material is transported off-site and properly disposed of in compliance with state regulations. Other wastes include water-based inks which are discharged to the sewer system by permission from the Blackstone Valley District Commission (2,5).

On 12 April 1986, DEM received an anonymous complaint alleging that the Nyman Manufacturing Company disposed of trichloroethylene, alcohol based inks and lube oil residues in trenches approximately 1000 feet behind the plant. The trenches were described as being located parallel to and approximately 125 feet away from the railroad tracks (figure 2). The complainant stated the first occurrence of this dumping was in the early 1970's (4).

As a result of this complaint, the RIDEM conducted an inspection of Nyman's plant and property on 23 April 1986. While searching the northwest corner of the site, RIDEM representatives

discovered an area of disturbed soil (2-3 feet above grade). Other areas of the site investigated by the RIDEM appeared to be filled and devoid of vegetation (6).

From 16 April to 23 April 1986, six underground storage tanks were removed from the Nyman property. It is believed that First National Stores used some of the tanks for the storage of heating oil and the other tanks were used for gasoline storage for their fleet of trucks (7). The removal of a 15,000 gallon methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) tank, a 500 gallon tank #2 heating oil, two 4,000 gallon gasoline tanks, and two 15,000 gallon tanks containing #6 fuel oil were overseen by the RIDEM, Division of Groundwater and Freshwater Wetlands. One of the 15,000 gallon tanks containing #6 fuel oil had leaked and contaminated approximately 307 cubic yards of soil. Based on reports by RIDEM personnel all of the contaminated soil was removed and properly disposed of offsite (8).

In May 1988, Szepatowski Associates Inc. completed a report (referred to as The Environmental Property Audit Of Nyman Manufacturing Site) in order to investigate the possibility of hazardous waste disposal on Nyman's property. Three soil samples were obtained from borings located in the alleged disposal area and analyzed for PCB's and volatile organic compounds (figure 2). Sample results indicated all four soil samples were non-detectable for PCB and Volatile Organic compound contamination. The locations of these soil borings (labeled SS1 through SS4) are shown on figure 2, however, sampling depths were not provided (2).

No private or public supply wells are believed to exist within one mile of the site. Drinking water in the city of East Providence is provided by the Providence Water Supply Board which utilizes water from the Scituate Reservoir, which is located over 10 miles west of the site in Scituate, Rhode Island. The city provides water to all of its approximately 50,300 residents (9).

The groundwater flow in the immediate vicinity of the site is believed to be in an easterly direction towards Central Pond. Central Pond is located approximately one half of a mile east of the site along the Rhode Island and Massachusetts border. This water body, is designated as a Class "D" waterbody, by the RIDEM, Division of Water Resources. This classification indicates that this water is suitable for navigation, industrial uses, migration of fish, and has a good aesthetic value. This water flows south into the James V. Turner Reservoir which is designated as class "C" water, which indicates that this water is suitable for fish, wildlife habitat, recreational boating, industrial uses and has a good aesthetic value. From here the water flows west into the Seekonk River and out into the Narragansett Bay. None of these surface water bodies are used for drinking water supply, however Narragansett Bay is used as a source of food (10,11).

CONCLUSION

The Nyman Manufacturing Company site is located immediately

northeast of the company's facility off Ferris Avenue in East Providence, Rhode Island. The site consists of approximately two acres of vacant land and is, along with the Nyman facility, surrounded by a six foot chain-linked fence. The area surrounding the site is of both residential and commercial use. Private drinking water wells and/or municipal supply wells are not believed to exist within one mile of the site.

During 1986, RIDEM received an anonymous telephone complaint, alleging that Nyman Manufacturing disposed of trichloroethylene, alcohol based inks and lube oil residues in onsite trenches in the early 1970's. Current site topography and vegetation indicates that an alteration of the site surface took place. However, there are no indications of the trenches mentioned in the anonymous complaint.

Based on the information presented in this Preliminary Assessment and in order to assess the site's potential hazard more accurately RIDEM recommends a medium priority for a site inspection. ✓

REFERENCES

1. Town of East Providence, Tax Accessor's Records 3/6/89.
2. Nyman Manufacturing Company, 1988, Results of the Environmental Property Audit of Nyman Manufacturing Site
3. RIDEM/DAHM. 1988. Site Field Investigation Reports, Nyman Mfg. Co., December 5.
4. RIDEM/DAHM. 1988. CERCLA Files.
5. RIDEM/RCRA. 1987. Generator Biennial Hazardous Waste Report.
6. RIDEM/DAHM. 1986. CERCLA Site Investigation Reports, Nyman Mfg. Co., April 23.
7. Ball, J.J. (RIDEM/DAHM), 1988. Interview with Peter Sullivan of the Division of Groundwater and Freshwater Wetlands.
8. RIDEM/Division of Groundwater and Freshwater Wetlands. 1986. Tank closure.
9. Ball, J.J. (RIDEM/DAHM), 1988, Telephone conversation with an employee of the East Providence, Division of Water, December

10. State of RI, DEM, Map of Present Water Quality Conditions.
11. USGS 7.5' topographic map of East Providence Quadrangles.
1971, Photorevised in 1979.



**FIGURE 1 LOCUS MAP
NYMAN MANUFACTURING CO.
EAST PROVIDENCE, R.I.**

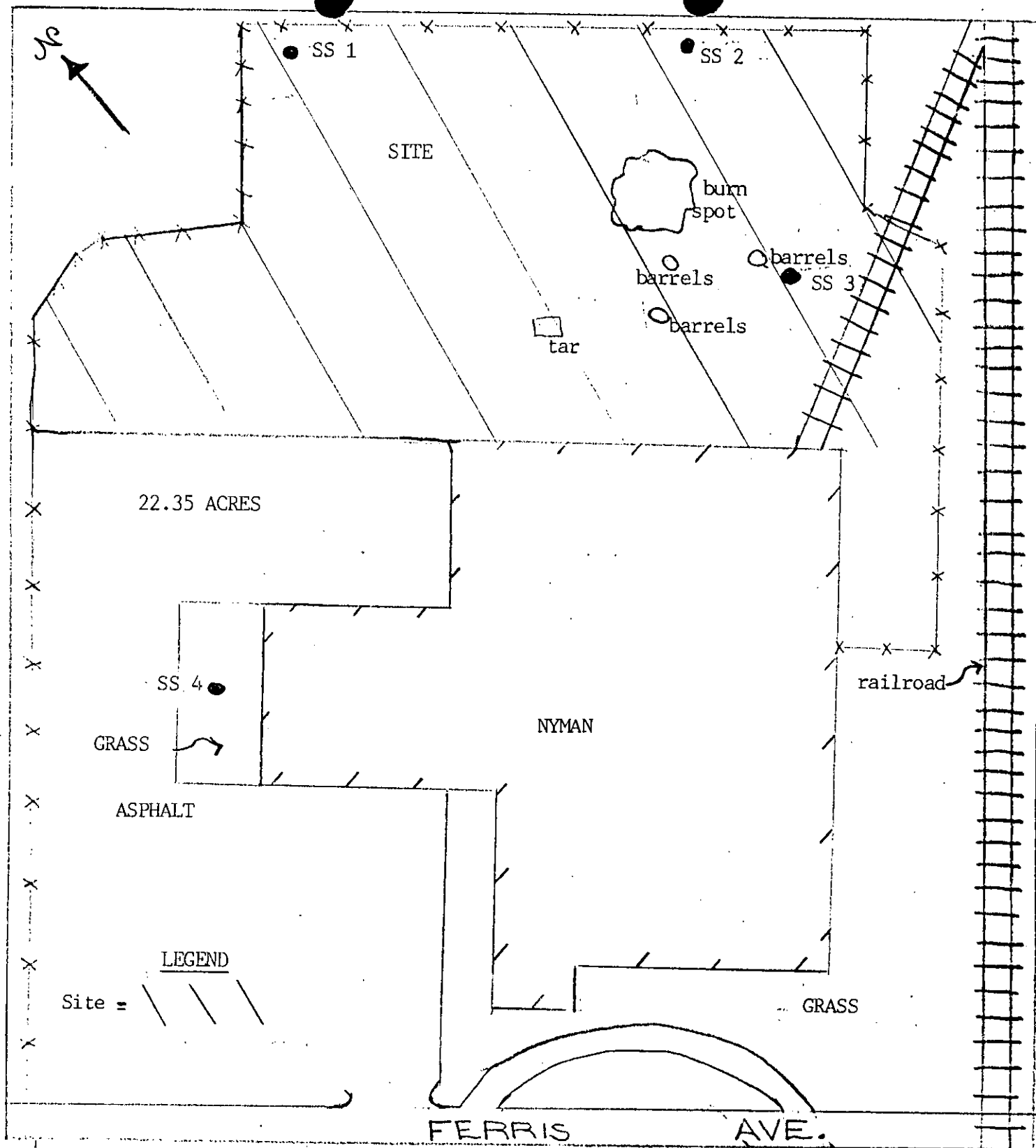


FIGURE 2
NYMAN MANUFACTURING COMP.
NOT SCALE



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT

I. IDENTIFICATION
01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER
RI RID9AIB86098

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site)
NYMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY
02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER
275 FERRIS AVE.
03 CITY
EAST PROVIDENCE
04 STATE 05 ZIP CODE 06 COUNTY
RI 02916 PROVIDENCE
07 COUNTY CODE 08 CONG DIST
007 1ST
09 COORDINATES LATITUDE LONGITUDE

10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road)

Rt. 195 TO Rt 44. HEAD EAST TO Rt 114. GO NORTH ON Rt. 114 TO FERRIS AVE.

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (If known)
KEN NYMAN
02 STREET (Business, mailing, residential)
275 FERRIS AVE
03 CITY
EAST PROVIDENCE
04 STATE 05 ZIP CODE 06 TELEPHONE NUMBER
RI 02916 (401) 438-3410
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner)
08 STREET (Business, mailing, residential)
09 CITY
10 STATE 11 ZIP CODE 12 TELEPHONE NUMBER
()
13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one)
☒ A. PRIVATE ☐ B. FEDERAL: (Agency name)
☐ C. STATE ☐ D. COUNTY ☐ E. MUNICIPAL
☐ F. OTHER: (Specify)
☐ G. UNKNOWN

14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply)

☐ A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED: / /
MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (CERCLA 103 c) DATE RECEIVED: / /
MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ C. NONE

IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD

01 ON SITE INSPECTION
☒ YES DATE 4/23/86
MONTH DAY YEAR ☐ NO
BY (Check all that apply)
☐ A. EPA ☐ B. EPA CONTRACTOR ☒ C. STATE ☐ D. OTHER CONTRACTOR
☐ E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL ☐ F. OTHER:
CONTRACTOR NAME(S): (Specify)

02 SITE STATUS (Check one)

☒ A. ACTIVE ☐ B. INACTIVE ☐ C. UNKNOWN

03 YEARS OF OPERATION

1969 PRESENT
BEGINNING YEAR ENDING YEAR ☐ UNKNOWN

04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED

It was alleged that NYMAN Mfg Co. disposed of trichloroethylene alcohol based inks and lube oil residues behind the plant.

05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION

Contamination of groundwater due to alleged improper disposal.

V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT

01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one. If high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents)
☐ A. HIGH (Inspection required promptly) ☒ B. MEDIUM (Inspection required) ☐ C. LOW (Inspect on time available basis) ☐ D. NONE (No further action needed, complete current disposition form)

VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT
JAMES BALL
02 OF (Agency/Organization)
RIDEM
03 TELEPHONE NUMBER
(401) 277-2797
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT
JAMES BALL
05 AGENCY
DEM
06 ORGANIZATION
DAHM
07 TELEPHONE NUMBER
(401) 277-2797
08 DATE
1/25/89
MONTH DAY YEAR